FBIS DAILY REPORT

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TALKS HELD WITH ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

PY100258 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2235 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Aug (NA) -- Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo reportedly promised that his government is going "to study the Malvinas problem" before giving a final answer as to the position Italy will adopt at the forthcoming UN General Assembly, reliable sources have said.

The Argentine-British conflict was discussed by Foreign Ministers Aguirre Lanari and Colombo at a long meeting held this morning from 0930 to 1130 and which was attended by members of the Italian minister's entourage and by high-ranking officials of San Martin Palace.

They also reviewed their countries' relations with the United States of America. About this issue, Colombo reportedly said that as a member of the European Economic Community, his country was "aligned" with the United States. The Argentine foreign minister said that relations with that country "will depend on the development of negotiations" with Great Britain and on the position the Reagan administration may adopt regarding this problem.

According to the sources, Colombo also expressed his country's interest in taking part in Argentine infrastructural projects, especially in the Yacyreta Dam.

The two delegations also discussed the serious situation prevailing in Central America. The Italian foreign minister said his country was especially concerned over the confrontation between Nicaragua and the United States "due to the imbalance this situation is causing in the area." The Argentine delegation stated that although the Central American crisis merited a careful study, Argentina "will not interfere" in its development.

The sources added that the Italian foreign minister spoke of the Polish crisis, the Iranian-Iraqi war and of the conflict which is taking place in Lebanon.

At approximately 1130 the Argentine and Italian foreign ministers left the meeting and talks were then presided over by Arnoldo Listre, for our country, and by [Bruno] Bottai (son of the well-known culture minister of the then dictator Benito Mussolini), for Italy, until 1300.

The sources said that the status of the Argentine foreign debt with European countries, the Argentine role in the nonaligned bloc and Argentine relations with the EEC were discussed at the meeting. Regarding this last issue, Foreign Minister Colombo said his country wanted "to narrow the gap" caused by the Malvinas conflict.

Finally, the sources said Foriegn Minister Colombo wanted to maintain direct contacts with representatives of the Italian community in our country, in view of the large number of Italian residents (nearly 1 million). As is known, all Italians residing abroad will be eligible to vote in the forthcoming Italian elections.

SECRETARY ON UNESCO RESOLUTION ON FALKLANDS

PY092227 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 9 Aug 82 p 5

[Text] (DYN) -- Argentina won its first diplomatic battle to gain worldwide recognition of its right to the Malvinas at a UNESCO world congress held in Mexico where a resolution calling on UNESCO to take up Argentina's case passed 41 to 14, according to Culture Secretary Julio Gancedo.

Gancedo yesterday returned from the two-week United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organization annual world congress attended by representatives of 150 nations who elected him vice president.

"This has been the first international forum since a cease in hostilities was declared at which Argentina's rights to the Malvinas have been defended and discussed," Gancedo declared.

He said the resolution gives UNESCO authority to ask "all colonialist powers to return their territories to the nations which are victims of colonialism."

The secretary charged that Great Britain's UNESCO representative tried to obstruct passage of the resolution by stating that "now is not the time to discuss such a measure."

Argentina presented 15 proposals at the congress, all of which were approved, Gancedo said. Within the resolution referring to the Malvinas he said was a clause calling on UNESCO to lodge a protest with Great Britain about its takeover of an Argentine scientific station on the Sandwich Islands. The British action "has prevented the scientists from continuing their meteorological and geological research which benefits all of humanity," he said.

"Argentina's rights to the Malvinas have never been in doubt as they evidently are justly ours, which is why we have been demanding our rights for the last 150 years," declared Gancedo.

FRANCE REPORTEDLY LIFTS ARMS EMBARGO 9 AUG

PY092044 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] France has lifted its embargo on arms sales to our country. The French Government has publicly announced that in the face of the cessation of hostilities on the Malvinas the embargo is no longer justified. Therefore, the reports say, those pending contracts will now be implemented and all pending deliveries will be made to our country.

[Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish at 2000 GMT on 9 August adds that: "The appropriate notification by the French authorities has already been received by the Argentine Foreign Ministry."]

PUBLIC INFORMATION SECRETARIAT REPLACED

PY091503 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1318 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Aug (DYN) -- The national executive branch today created the Social Communications Secretariat which will replace the Public Information Secretariat (SIP) and will be headed by businessman Pastor Oscar Magdalena, chairman of the Argentine chamber of advertisers. Pastor Oscar Magdalena will take over at 0900 on Wednesday. Meanwhile Eduardo Maschwitz was confirmed as the presidential spokesman.

UCR DOCUMENT SLAMS GOVERNMENT FOREIGN POLICY

PY091525 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1217 GMT 5 Aug 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Aug (NA) -- The Argentine Radical Civic Union (UCR) has charged the government with following a foreign policy favorable to "certain social and economic local groups and the great international centers of power," neglecting the nation's interests.

The UCR also called upon governors and provincial officials to lead this stage of transition toward democracy "with absolute impartiality and political neutrality."

The UCR, headed by Carlos Contin, also asked for the immediate lifting of restrictions which preclude the return to Argentina of former UCF Senator Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen.

Last night the UCR released three documents, one of which reviewed Argentina's foreign policy in recent years. These documents were drawn up by the political action commission, presided over by former President Arturo Illia, and based on the resolutions of the latest general meeting of the party.

According to the UCR the de facto government has outlined the objectives of its foreign policy "in a contradictory manner, thus harming the role of the nation within the international framework." The UCR stated that "this erratic and incoherent behavior has led the country to a virtually unprecedented loss of credibility abroad."

After pointing out that the collapse of the military junta has neutralized any possibility of an effective foreign policy being implemented, the document of the UCR pointed out that the management of foreign policy cannot be postponed until the advent of a constitutional government. It stressed: "This would cause irreparable damage to national interests."

The UCR communique recalled that over the last 6 years Argentina's role in Latin America was neglected, "to the point that it got involved in Central America serving policies alien to national interests."

According to the Radicals the current transition government must try to resolve the conflicts over the Malvinas and the Beagle Channel because they "directly affect the nation's external security and seriously jeopardize the very large interests which our nation has in the South Atlantic."

They stated further that above and beyond the planning of the military government, the recovery of the Malvinas "is a national and Latin American cause and an anticolonialist endeavour that must not be postponed or delayed."

However, they warned that the disagreement with Chile must be resolved peacefully because of its very special nature and the "bioceanic principle must be respected."

The UCR also called for greater Latin American integration and advocated a subcontinental "democratic body" capable of "promoting and supporting democratic and constitutional regimes."

The Radicals' position toward foreign policy is that the current government must "swiftly and concretely" implement decisions that would "deal decisively" with the building of the Yacyreta hydroelectric dam.

As to former member of the UCR National Board Solari Yrigoyen, the document pointed out that his exile in France is due to "an arbitrary decision." The document emphasized that "it is an obviously illegal punishment, both arbitrary and contrary to the national Constitution."

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO CUBA -- The Cuban Government has agreed to the appointment of Luis Clarasó de la Vega as the new Argentine ambassador to Cuba, replacing Rafael Maximo Vazquez, who was named Argentine ambassador to Mexico. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 6 Aug 82 PY]

URUGUAYAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS -- Walter Ravenna, new Uruguayan ambassador to Argentina, today presented his credentials to Argentine President Reynaldo Bignone. [Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Aug 82 PY]

PRESIDENT RETURNS; PRAISES COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT

PY091720 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] President Guido Vildoso Calderon returned from Colombia last night after attending the presidential inauguration of Belisario Bentancur. Referring to a statement made by the president, the information minister stated: President Vildoso Calderon feels that the international image of our country has been strengthened.

The document states: With great satisfaction I address my fellow citizens to report on the mission I had to fulfill by representing the Bolivian Government and people at the ceremony marking the transfer of power in Colombia. The honors and deference I received were not given because of my personality but due to my investiture as president of Bolivia, and in light of that investiture, I am pleased to inform the Bolivian people that I found a cordial and respectful welcome, both from the outgoing illustrious President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala and from the newly installed president, Belisario Betancur, whose brilliant and charismatic personality has engraved a profound impression in me. I am sure that his high ideals and his firm desire to fulfill his goals are a guarantee for the prosperity of Colombia.

I must thank His Excellency Dr Betancur for the warm welcome and cordial expression of friendship made to Bolivia, and for the interest he showed in our national situation.

The document adds: Commenting on the hard time our economy is going through, and the internal disagreements which are temporarily dividing the Bolivians, Vildoso stated that these situations should not change Bolivia's international position as a sovereign nation and Bolivia will continue to participate in great events such as that staged in Colombia.

He finally referred to the cordial meetings he held with all the illustrious presidents who participated in the installation of President Betancur, who was elected democratically.

SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT IN OCT

PY091838 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Perez Llorca will officially visit Bolivia in October, seeking to strengthen relations between Bolivia and Spain.

This report has been included in a joint communique issued by President Guido Vildoso Calderon and the head of the Spanish Government Leopoldo Calvo-Sotelo, at the end of a private meeting they held in Bogota yesterday.

During the meeting the two presidents expressed their satisfaction over the excellent relations between their governments and peoples, and their desire to strengthen them in the fields of cooperation and assistance for development, according to the communique released today by Foreign Minister Agustin Saavedra.

The meeting between Vildoso and Calvo-Sotelo held in Bogota was made possible by the presidential inauguration of Belisario Betancur. Vildoso told Calvo-Sotelo that Bolivia will receive with interest the visit of Spanish King Juan Carlos on one of his next trips abroad.

The Spanish Government representative also expressed his satisfaction over the institutional normalization process undertaken by the armed forces government of Bolivia, and expressed hope for its successful accomplishment.

ENERGY MINISTER COMMENTS ON GAS PIPELINE RUMORS

PY091625 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The national government will not comment on press reports originating in Brazil regarding possible changes in the project to build a gas pipeline to that country.

As you may remember, EFE reported from Brasilia last weekend that in light of new discoveries of gas reserves in the Amazon region, the possibility of Brazil purchasing Bolivian gas could change its course.

Asked about this subject in the past few hours, Energy and Hydrocarbons Minister Augusto Sanchez stated:

[Begin Sanchez recording] Regarding reports released by the press, we are continuing negotiations with Brazil through the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB], and we hope to conclude these negotiations by the end of August. Obviously, we are also appraising the amount of reserves with the help of a World Bank expert. We expect the results of these studies to be positive, and therefore, since there are no positive negotiations with Brazil, we cannot make a statement at this time. [end recording]

FOREIGN DEBT REPORTEDLY TO BE RENEGOTIATED

PY091452 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] According to a report released by a Finance Ministry source, the Bolivian foreign debt will be renegotiated. The government will hold talks this week with the Bank of America to renegotiate the country's foreign debt of $470 million with U.S. banks. The deadline expires 16 August.

At that time, our country must pay one of the installments due and interest services. This report was obtained from the finance minister, in answer to our question.

The $470 million-credit was given to Bolivia in 1975 for investment in development projects, especially in agriculture and agroindustry, and also in construction projects.

It has been reported that the National Council for Stabilization will release the guidelines for renegotiation the debt, and there is a possibility that an official delegation will travel to the United States.

CENTRAL BANK RECEIVES NEW SUPPLY OF MONEY

PY091908 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] The Bolivian Central Bank received in the past few hours a shipment of 3 billion Bolivian pesos printed in Great Britain designed to meet the needs for liquidity of the national banking system.

The shipment which is already at the underground chamber of the Central Bank includes bills of 100, 50 and 10 Bolivian pesos, was immediately sealed with the signature of the president and general manager of the Central Bank, before it is put into circulation.

Thus, this shipment of 3 billion pesos will be added to the other shipment of 1.6 billion pesos handed over to the banking system a few weeks ago.

Official sources have reported that the money supply now amounts to 24 billion Bolivian pesos, an amount considered insufficient given the inflation rate the country is experiencing and which demands a greater supply of money.

PRESIDENT HURTADO COMMENTS ON COLOMBIA VISIT

PA090417 Paris AFP in Spanish 0217 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Quito, 8 Aug (AFP) -- On his return to Ecuador after a 24-hour stay in Colombia, Ecuadorean President Oswaldo Hurtado said that the presidential inauguration ceremony on Saturday in Bogota "was instructive" for all of us who were there. The president said that it was appropriate to comment about that ceremony from the Ecuadorean viewpoint, and he referred to the fact that the president of the Colombian Senate, who is a Liberal Party member, said upon swearing in the Conservative Party president "that I want to acknowledge the Ecuadoreans."

"We do not want to tell President Betancur what he can do for the Liberal Party, but what the Liberal Party can do for the new government elected by the Colombian people," President Hurtado said the Colombian official stated, indicating that this sense of cooperation among the political parties is one of the things that most impressed the Ecuadorean delegation.

Another aspect that the Ecuadorean president stressed was the meeting with Bolivian chief of state, Gen Guido Vildoso Calderon, who told him that the Bolivian presidential elections will be held in April 1983, and that the inauguration will be held on 6 August. "This should gladden all of us who trust and believe in democracy," Hurtado said.

Another point that he mentioned was the meeting with U.S. Vice President George Bush, in which they discussed U.S. relations with Latin America. Hurtado indicated that he expressed to Vice President Bush "the continent's concern over the position that his government assumed in the South Atlantic conflict and the U.S. Government's economic policy, which causes serious harm to Latin American nations."

He said that in the talk with Venezuelan President Luis Herrer Campins they reviewed all the problems of tne continent and exchanged ideas about the statements that should be included in the "joint declaration" of the chiefs of state. Hurtado also spoke with Herrera Campins about the bilateral problem that has emerged as a result of the restriction on the purchase of Ecuadorean sea products by Venezuela. He said that the Venezuelan president reiterated his government's decision to find a formula to solve that problem.

Regarding the Ecuadorean proposal to strengthen Latin American unity, Hurtado said that several points are included in the "joint declaration" signed by the chiefs of state.

He observed that a problem has emerged on this point of the Latin American proposal due to the existence of the Caribbean community, which is English speaking. He said that the Caribbean countries "would consider themselves separate from a united Latin America." "This point," he noted, " is considered in the joint declaration of Bogota."

BORDER AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH COLOMBIA

PA080323 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Excerpt] After several days of deliberations by special commissions from the two countries, an agreement was signed to resolve the border differences between Colombia and Ecuador. The vehicles blocking passage on the Colombian side of the Rumichaca international bridge were immediately removed to permit the free circulation of both individuals and vehicles. As regards the problem posed by the passage of products from one country to the other, the document establishes that there will be cooperation to satisfy domestic consumptions in accordance with the respective customs laws so long as the products in question tend to improve the lives of those who live the border-integration area. A maximum value of 10,000 sucres or 10,000 pesos was established.

BELAUNDE ON ARMS RACE, RELATIONS WITH ECUADOR

PY091732 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2018 GMT 8 Aug 82

[By Miguel Caredes]

[Text] Lima, 8 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- President Fernando Belaunde Terry today said that Peru is not engaged in any arms race and added that "I do not have the slightest concern over the purchase of military materiel by neighboring countries."

He went on to say: "I believe that all nations must keep an eye on their defense capabilities because it is the duty of each government to be prepared. I do not see in this signs of aggressiveness because I have faith in the good sense of all friendly governments."

In the course of his usual Sunday press conference Belaunde said: "I do believe that this is not the time for confrontation but for integration."

The president talked about the demarcation of the Peruvian-Ecuadorean border and said that Peru would be very pleased if the placing of landmarks of the yet unmarked 70-km stretch of the Condor mountain range could be stepped up. "I must point out that the entire border (1,600 km) is demarcated and the only section where this was not done is the Condor mountain range, which is a natural border landmark. The (Frucoya) which is not a natural border landmark and is located in the Amazon River valley is perfectly demarcated.

"I wish to reiterate my most fervent wishes that the feeling of cordiality, of which Peru has given so much proof, will prevail," Belaunde told the journalists at Government House.

The president refused to comment of the alleged offer which Spanish head of government Leopoldo Calvo-Sotelo made in Ecuador to mediate in the Peruvian-Ecuadorean border conflict.

He explained: "In connection with the relations between Peru and Ecuador, the Rio de Janeiro Treaty (signed in 1942) states that whenever there is some sort of disagreement it will be submitted for the consideration of the guarantors of the treaty, therefore this protocol already provides a legal formula in keeping with international law."

The guarantors of the protocol are Argentina, Brazil, the United States and Chile, who mediated for peace between Peruvians and Ecuadoreans whose armed forces clashed in January 1981 after exchanging charges of territorial violations in the Condor mountain range.

Belaunde also spoke about the suggestion of his Colombian counterpart Belisario Bentancur to hold a meeting of Latin American presidents to evaluate the situation in the region. "All presidential trips must be brief, but there is always room for exchanging ideas and no place could be more pleasant than Cartagena," he said.

PRESIDENT NOT TO ATTEND THIRD WORLD CONFERENCE

PY091312 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2029 GMT 8 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Lima, 8 Aug (LATIN-REUTER) -- President Fernando Belaunde Terry announced today that he will not attend the nonaligned countries summit conference because he must take care of his most immediate government responsibilities. He added that Peru will be well represented, although he did not mention who will make up the delegation to the Third World conference, scheduled for next month in Baghdad.

In a press conference he stated: I have received the invitation, but I have declined to attend the conference because I need to take care of my most immediate responsibilities.

PRESIDENT HERRERA HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE

PA100351 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Weekly news conference held by President Luis Herrera Campins at the Hall of Mirrors at Miraflores Palace in Caracas -- live]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr President, my question is whether there is any news about the persons tried for the (?bombing attempt).

[Answer] Last night the government issued a truthful, objective and timely report on the incidents related to the escape of two of the persons who were tried in the so-called Cuban airliner case. Last night we immediately began to take measures to carry out an exhaustive investigation of the incidents to determine responsibilities. In addition, yesterday the foreign minister was visited by the ambassador of the Republic of Chile, since the two persons who escaped from the San Carlos jail have taken refuge in the Chilean Embassy.

I can report that so far no one representing the Chilean Embassy or the Chilean Government has requested asylum for these two persons. We are closely following this situation in order to act appropriately, always within the context of respect for the law, which is one of the characteristics of the government that I head, which acts within a social state that is governed by law.

[Question] Mr President, Cuban President Fidel Castro said yesterday that relationships with Venezuela are moving on a good path, an obvious reference to what has been called detente. Do you think, Mr President, that the escape of these two men will be an obstacle on the path of detente with Cuba?

[Answer] The question is very interesting and very timely. I also read the statements made by the Cuban president on the occasion of the inauguration of the Central American and Caribbean games yesterday. Now, I must say that it is not possible to establish any connection between the government and the regrettable event that has taken place. There is absolutely no relation or correlation there, and the government is acting within the framework of the law, which is the area in which the government must operate.

[Question] Mr President, some opposition sectors have said, regarding the escape of Luis Posada Carriles and Hernan Ricardo, that there was nothing spectacular about it. No tunnel was dug. Instead, in broad daylight, these two prisoners were able to elude the guards at the San Carlos military prison, a place where there was once an office that was linked to the CIA. Given this -- and as poet Nicoals Guillen might have said, if he could see this [words indistinct] link -- what is your opinion?

[Answer] The fact is that I have not quite understood the question that you are asking.

[Question] The question is: Do you think, as president of Venezuela, that the CIA is implicated in the escape of these two prisoners from San Carlos military prison?

[Answer] So far I have no evidence, no direct or indirect indication of the involvement of any domestic or foreign intelligence organization in this escape. Actually, it did take place in full daylight. These things happen, right? They happen under any regime. As an anecdote, when I was a prisoner at the Caracas model jail, I witnessed the escape -- or rather we learned later of the escape, because at the moment we were unaware of it -- of (Gonzalo Camejo Huerto) through the main door of the jail.

He simply took advantage of the confusion of one of the officials. This happened during the last dictatorship to which this country was subject.

[Question] Recently there have been rumors that diplomatic relations with Uruguay may be reestablished. The Venezuelan Government has said on many occasions that this would not be possible unless there was an explanation of the whereabouts of Professor Quintero. I would like to know what truth there is in this.

[Answer] Venezuela had serious and well-founded reasons for breaking off relations with the Republic of Uruguay. It should be noted that despite our ideological and political differences, Venezuelans feel for Uruguay an immense affection and great attachment, beginning with the person of its liberator, Jose Artigas.

There has always been talk about the possibility of resuming those relations but, of course, that requires a clarification of the regrettable incident that took place at the Venezuelan Embassy in Uruguay, which had consequences that are already known to all. For this reason, the mere fact that time erases memories will not lead to a renewal of relations with Uruguay. We are the first to desire those relations, and let us hope that the circumstances will be created that will allow us to again have the same cordial, friendly relations that we had up to the time of the rupture of relations with the Uruguayan Government.

[Question] Mr President. I would like to return to the topic of the prisoners who escaped from the San Carlos military prison yesterday. For example, if Chile were to decide to grant asylum to these persons [words indistinct] would this cause problems in the relations between Venezuela and Chile?

[Answer] For the time being, the only real and objective fact is that they are fugitives from military justice, to which they were subject. When the Chilean Government, through its embassy in Caracas, makes proposals, we will study them in order to give the appropriate reply.

[Question] Mr President, journalist (Luis Herrera), who is in Havana, has said that Luis Posada Carriles had been receiving a salary from social (?security).

[Answer] I know absolutely nothing about that. It shows every sign of being absolutely untrue, as untrue as the statement made in a book he published in which he said that I had allegedly promised to release the defendants in the Cuban airliner case if I got to be president. There was not an atom of truth in that.

[Question] There have been rumors, comments and statements by some officials of your government and international news agencies attributing one charge or another to monitored Cuban newscasts. My question is very simple: Have you received any official communication from the Cuban Government regarding the fugitives from the San Carlos military prison?

[Answer] No.

[Question] The country is aware of your government's good intentions and the efforts that it has made to maintain the best and most cordial relations with the Nicaraguan Government. This is demonstrated by your most recent visit to that country. However, recently a number of things have taken place in Nicaragua -- which I am going to list briefly -- and I would like to know what comment your government has to make. A letter sent by Pope John Paul II to the Episcopal conference held in that country was silenced. It was not published. Radio Catolica is only allowed to broadcast music. There is a campaign underway against the Federation of Nicaraguan Workers, and many of its leaders have been imprisoned. We know that the active forces grouped in a Nicaraguan version of our Association of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Fedecamaras, have also been persecuted.

Many of them have gone to live in Costa Rica. Emilio Lopez, of the Nicaraguan Human Rights Commission, is under arrest and has been sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment for having reported the death of a prisoner. The Human Rights Commission has been told that henceforth all its bulletins must receive prior censorship, and several leaders of the Social Christian Party of Nicaragua are under arrest. They are (Julio Ramon Montes), (Manuel Berrio), Feliciano Polanco, (Francisco Rodriguez) and (Noel Sosa). The first three have been transferred to [words indistinct] and the others are in Managua. Recently, the Nicaraguan Government received from the Libyan Government -- and the Nicaraguan Government is daily (?leaning more toward) the communist countries -- a shipment of transportation equipment and military weapons and assurances from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi that over $200 million would be invested in that country. I would like to hear your comments on these events.

[Answer] I have been saying, ever since the struggle with the Somozist dictatorship and following the triumph of the revolution in Nicaragua, that it is necessary to extend a friendly hand to that country and remind those who are directing its political process today that they are morally committed -- particularly to Latin America, which supported them in the struggle -- to carry out the pluralist plan that they announced when they came to power. I say this tonight in a press conference, and I have repeated it on more than one occasion to the distinguished friends who are members of the Junta of the Government of Reconstruction of Nicaragua, both during my visit 2 years ago and in the visit that I made on accepting the invitation to be the only chief of state present at the celebrations of the third anniversary of the revolution.

As a ruler and a journalist, I have to be opposed to the restrictive measures imposed on freedom of expression. I cannot understand why a letter from His Holiness John Paul II -- full of good will and calling for the end of violence in Central America and the achievement of peace, harmony and understanding among the various sectors of the people -- could not be published in the newspapers or read over the radio in the Republic of Nicaragua, which is also the case with the bulletins of the Human Rights Commission.

I understand that when a country is facing difficult situations it may take measures that temporarily limit the full exercise of certain rights. However, I am concerned, as I have said, at the extension of the state of emergency for a lengthy period. I have told the leaders of the Sandinist revolution that their chances of having friends in Latin America depend to a great extent on the achievement of a climate of internal detente in Nicaragua and that to the extent that under the shelter of the state of emergency they close their fists too tightly on the independent or opposition sectors, on those who are ideologically or politically opposed to them, Latin America will view them with increasing mistrust; and that if they continue to tighten the screws, when they want to find friends, they will find that they are alone.

I am concerned over the situation -- and I say this seriously, although I am going to end with pleasantries -- I am concerned over the situation of Radio Catolica of Nicaragua, which is run by the archbishopric, which, as is known, is led by a great man: Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, the archbishop of Managua. I am concerned that a radio station of the importance and prestige of Radio Catolica should have been forbidden to give information and is only allowed to broadcast music. This distresses me because I really do not wish to see a day come in which Radio Catolica is told to take its music elsewhere.

Thank you very much. Our time is up. All your questions have been truly very interesting.

SABOTEURS SEEK REFUGE AT CHILEAN EMBASSY

PA100209 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Authorities have placed Ottawa Street in the suburb of Valle Arriba under military control because the Chilean Embassy in Caracas is located there, at a place called Quinta Miravilla. Fugitives Luis Posada Carriles and Hernan Ricardo, who escaped from San Carlos Prison yesterday, have sought refuge at the embassy. Agents of the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services and the National Guard have surrounded the area since the early morning hours. People circulating there, including dozens of newsman who have gathered near the embassy, are carefully checked and searched by security agents.

In statements made in Santiago, (Fernando Senar), general director of the Chilean Foreign Ministry, noted that it won't be easy to grant political asylum to the men involved in the bombing of the Cuban plane, who have sought refuge at the Chilean Embassy in Caracas. He said they are staying at the embassy as guests.

(Senar) added that the fugitives' situation is being discussed, but it isn't for Chile to take the first steps. He noted that Chile must begin a dialogue with the Venezuelan Government. He continued: and since it is probable that these people will seek asylum, we will have to study this, but under the agreement that links the two countries. According to this agreement, it doesn't look like the necessary conditions exist to grant asylum, because the agreement is very demanding, he concluded.

Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco today said that our government is waiting for the Chilean government to make a decision regarding the case of Posada Carriles and Ricardo.

Meanwhile, Defense Minister Gen Luiz Vicente Narvaez Churion said that an investigation into the escape of the saboteurs has been ordered. He said that he has ordered a thorough investigation into the escape. He refused to comment on the possible complicity of San Carlos garrison soldiers in the affair. He explained that all personnel who were on duty yesterday are being questioned.

The Venezuelan Foreign Ministry is still waiting for a Chilean decision. Zambrano Velasco met with Chilean Ambassador Carlos Alberto de Costa Nora and requested information on the case. De Costa Nora said that he is waiting for instructions from Chile to see if the fugitives will be given political asylum. Zambrano Velasco attended a meeting at Merrera Campins, Interior Minister Luciano Valero and Defense Minister Narvaez Churion to analyze the situation.

An investigation by a military court is also expected in order to establish if the personnel on duty were negligent or accomplices in the escape. Meanwhile, the court martial to try those involved in the sabotage of the Cuban plane continued. General (Garcia Barrios), president of this court martial, said that the prisoners' escape didn't stop the trial, because the case is currently in its [words indistinct].

Opposition leaders noted that the prisoners' escape has political implications, because it is aimed at obstructing detente with Cuba. Victor Ramon Tenorio Sifontes said that the incident must be thoroughly investigated. He added that the government must find out if the officials of Sam Carlos garrison were negligent or acted as accomplices. Hector Perez Marcano of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left said that it is hard to escape from that prison. This is why, he said, we suspect that San Carlos officials were involved in the escape. He added that it wasn't just a coincidence that the two men sought asylum at the embassy yesterday.

LOPEZ PORTILLO WARNS ON 'RASH' ECONOMIC DEMANDS

FL071810 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1725 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- President Jose Lopez Portillo said this morning that if a dual exchange rate had not been established the country would have soon been left without reserves. He acknowledged that this system was risky but said he assumed full responsibility. The president added that the state will not give any more dollars to private banks for speculation. He called on all the country's sectors to remain calm and avoid rash actions such as asking for wage or price increases.

President Lopez Portillo analyzed the reasons that forced the federal government to set a dual exchange rate for the peso in relation to the U.S. dollar at a meeting held in the Carranza Room at Los Pinos official residence. The meeting was attended by leaders of the business and labor sectors and media directors. The chief executive recognized that the devaluations had not solved but rather aggravated the problems. He said he no longer had the right to ask the people for sacrifices, but that it was necessary to be prudent because the people were panicking and buying dollars without realizing that the more they buy the more the price will go up.

He warned that from now on persons who want to travel abroad to spend foreign exchange will have to pay a very high price because the state will no longer subsidize those dollars that are needed so much to pay off Mexico's external debt.

President's Analysis

FL091350 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1955 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 7 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- President Jose Lopez Portillo said today that if his administration had not implemented the monetary measures which fixed the dollar at a dual exchange rate, we would have continued to live in a world of absurdity. Without mentioning any specific country, the president said a certain economic power was upsetting the rest of the world's finances, depressing the price of raw materials, including oil, and raising interest rates.

He said: Facing the prospect that the world economy must either collapse or resolve its problems, we must gain time within and without; within, so we will not make hasty decisions and aggravate a problem, and without, to allow certain essential events to take place, he said. He said the establishment of a dual exchange rate will create problems because it is very hard to control and corruption may result. But if we remain united, if we do not corrupt one another -- and I am referring to the private sector, which is the one that upsets the exchange rate systems -- we have the opportunity to handle our limited currency more usefully, intelligently and honestly than we have up to now, he asserted.

He said that without these measures we would have continued to live in an absurd world with a currency flight and would have been left defenseless for the vultures of inflation to tear out our vitals. He explained that the dual exchange rate will allow for the diversion of incoming currency toward priorities, among them the purchase of food and supplies and payment of the foreign debt. He said incoming currency handled by the government would also be used to cover bank commitments to the savings system so that Mexico will not lose its credit standing, one of its fundamental assets.

Government Guarantees Supplies

FL092155 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2110 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Secretariat of Commerce (Secom) announced today that the government promised to guarantee the supply of basic products for the country's population. Secom also said there are enough food reserves. Secom spokesman Alfredo Nolasco Cabral said the state was using the complete distribution resources of the government.

These include the Basic Commodities Company (Conasupo), the network of stores of the Small Business Development Corporation, federal grocery stores and trade union shops. Nolasco Cabral asserted that now more than ever all resources available would be utilized to put a halt to abuses by businessmen and store owners against consumers. The spokesman urged workers to buy only indispensable basic products and food and to avoid waste by limiting purchases to what is strictly necessary.

PSUM Sees No Violence

FL092258 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2140 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM) came out today in favor of establishing a strong exchange and price control and for an adjustable wage scale. PSUM Deputy Gerardo Unzueta said his party favored increasing guaranteed prices for farm products so the peasants might be in a position to increase production.

Unzueta asserted that the recent price increases in energy and basic products and the establishment of a dual exchange rate did not represent a danger of violence for the country. He stressed that the government will have to be the one to have direct control of basic foodstuffs by eliminating the big monopolis and the middlemen.

Protest March Slated

FL092330 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2204 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Mexico City, 9 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Authentic Labor Front [FAT] has reported that several organizations will stage a march on 12 August to protest the deterioration of the working class' purchasing power. FAT Finance Secretary Bertha Lujan said the marchers, who will start out from the Monument to the Revolution and go to the Secretariat of Labor and Social Welfare, will demand that the government nationalize private banks and introduce unemployment benefits.

The leader of the Single Union of Nuclear Industry Workers, Antonio Gershenson, criticized the economic policy that has led Mexico into the biggest debt in its history and warned that should the crisis continue there is danger of a social conflict of serious consequences. The leader of the Trailmobil companies trade union, Manuel Crisostomo Reyes, said that if it does not overcome the present situation, the country might experience the "Argentinization" of its economy. Crisostomo said Mexico will be unable to disengage itself from the claws of the IMF if it does not implement mass mobilization.

CTM To Defer Demands

FL092129 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2015 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 9 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTN) said today that the labor organizations would present their demands to recover the purchasing power of their wages when the actual loss is known. CTM Secretary General Fidel Velazquez said at a press conference that unless the Labor Congress decided otherwise, the CTM was willing to defer demands for increased wages to compensate for the loss in purchasing power caused by the price increases for tortillas, bread, electricity and gas.

He added that the impact of these price increases had already been translated into figures. He also proposed that the private sector and businessmen bring back the prices in effect prior to the recent increase in goods and services. Velazquez explained that he supported the measures adopted by the government because he believed they were sound and because he wanted to keep the commitment assumed by the state-labor alliance.

FMLN MILITANTS SAID TRAINING YOUTHS IN CHIAPAS

WA091820 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 23 Jul 82 pp 3-A, 26-A

[By EXCELSIOR correspondent Porfirio Diaz Lopez]

[Text] "FMLN militants are training youths in weapons and guerrilla tactics in the communities of Huehuetan and San Cristobal de las Casas," reported the leader of the Coalition of Students and Teachers of the Autonomous University of Chiapas, Miguel Angel Pascasio and Alejandro Coutino Nucamendi. They added that teachers dismissed by Rector Jorge Toledo -- Jesus Manuel Liazarraga Ruiz, Fernando Garcia Vazquez, Bernardo Hernandez Tovar and Gilberto Gomez Maza -- have formed shock groups with FMLN members operating in localities near the Guatemalan border.

They indicated that "the majority of the youths the FMLN militants are training are students at the Autonomous University of Chiapas." Coutino Nucamendi and Pascasio demanded the immediate intervention by the Government Secretariat so the foreign rebels might be expelled from the state.

UNESCO DELEGATES APPROVE 'MEXICO DECLARATION'

FL062205 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1945 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 6 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The 119 countries attending the world conference on cultural policies here today unanimously approved the Declaration of Mexico, which condemns all attacks against the cultural legacy of nations. Regarding the cultural identity of nations, the declaration states that cultural identity must contribute to achieving the freedom of nations and to rejection of any form of domination. The declaration notes that any form of attack against the cultural heritage of nations, either through colonialism, through armed conflict, through foreign occupation or through the imposition of general values -- all of which are factors that make nations break bonds and traditions with their past -- is unacceptable.

The declaration advocates the free and broad exchange of information, ideas and knowledge. It states that these factors constitute some the basic principles of the new international information and communication order, which establishes that all countries have the right to receive and broadcast cultural, education, scientific and technological information. The declaration adds that the exchange of cultural, scientific and educational information must strengthen peace, respect human rights and contribute to the eradication of colonialism neocolonialism, racism, apartheid and all other forms of aggression, domination or intervention.

Espin on Aid to Nicaragua

FL091405 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2315 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 7 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- Vilma Espin, Cuban delegate to the conference on cultural policies here, noted today that Cuba is willing to give complete support to Nicaragua in view of the constant attacks by the United States and Honduras against that Central American country. Espin said the expansion of capitalism has brought imbalance and war in Central America. Espin noted that just as Cuba has cooperated with the Ethiopian, Angolan and Vietnamese forces, it will now give complete moral and military support to Nicaragua in its struggle to maintain its independence.

BRIEFS

NEW CHIAPAS GOVERNOR -- Tuxtla Gutierrez, 6 Aug (NOTIMEX) -- The Chiapas legislature has declared Gen Assalon Castellanos Dominguez new state governor. He will take office on 8 December. [Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0540 GMT 7 Aug 82 FL]

COSTA RICA

PRESIDENT MONGE COMMENTS ON SUBVERSIVE PLOT

PA100313 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 6 Aug 82 p 6A

[Text] President Luis Alberto Monge yesterday noted the existence of a plot by armed extremist groups to destabilize thecountry. He disclosed that at least two armed organizations are involved in plans to create chaos, but reported that the government is making accelerated efforts to ward off the danger.

This announcement was made yesterday, and at the same time it was reported that a confidential report presented to the members of the government council disclosed that the extremists are part of local Marxist groups that are armed by and receive support from Nicaragua and Cuba. According to this report, these groups operate on the Atlantic coast and in Talamanca, and they recently received modern weapons at strategic places in the country.

Other people who could be linked to this plan are Libyan agents who are expert in subversive activities and some groups of refugees who have settled in Costa Rica.

Other information held by the government makes officials presume that the terrorists intend to continue with the campaign of attacks and explosions. These terrorists are said to have certain heavy weapons in their camps, because suspicious tracks have been found on the paths they normally use. According to unconfirmed reports received by the government, there is a special office in Managua that would reportedly be in charge of coordinating these destabilization actions.

Monge

Monge yesterday said that his government is keeping the investigations that are being carried out to uncover the extremist groups strictly secret for "national security" reasons. He said that he has received reports connecting the leftists with international organizations, but the president didn't mention any country.

However, he said that the extreme left is not interested in seizing power, but only in sowing anarchy and destroying the democratic system. This contradicts the report presented to the ministries and Monge that disclosed the extremists' possible immediate plans, which do not rule out a large armed action.

Monge said that he has reports on the presence of certain Libyans in the country and on activities carried out by groups of refugees, but he didn't offer any details. He also said that he doesn't know of any possible ties between important local politicians and these armed groups. The president mentioned all this when newsmen asked him about several reports given them by certain deputies. He made the statements to the newsmen after a meeting with Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez.

The deputies of the United People Coalition did not participate in this meeting, and Monge said that he was complying with his duty to inform the deputies about matters of national interest. This meeting, he said, has prompted the communist deputies to launch a frantic campaign to discredit his government. These deputies say that the government reports are merely "a soap opera."

Details

A series of details about these alleged plans, which LA NACION learned about yesterday, are keeping the local authorities worried. According to unconfirmed reports, the groups are reportedly made up of youths who belong to two well-known leftist organizations.

During the past few months their leaders planned several actions to confuse the country. These actions include the release of terrorists who are being kept in local prisons for their involvement in offenses that include dynamite attacks, an attempt to kidnap a Salvadoran industrialist, the illegal possession of weapons, and minor crimes.

They were going to effect the release while carrying out attacks and setting off explosions in the capital. (The first of these actions was carried out on 3 July, when a bomb exploded at the offices of the Honduran Air Services, Incorporated.)

According to information held by the government, the terrorists were to be released through the kidnapping of one or several local personalities. However, there were possibilities for them to carry out direct actions such as lightning raids on the prisons where the terrorists are being kept.

Precautionary Measures

The officials in charge of investigations into the extremists feel that the dynamite attacks began with the explosion that disrupted San Jose on the night of 3 July. The government knows that there are Nicaraguan diplomats involved in this explosion, and that they might even have planned them jointly with local and foreign groups that want to disrupt public order.

All these actions were to coincide with a campaign to discredit Costa Rica because of alleged human rights violations (among other things). This campaign began some time ago, most violently in Nicaragua's official newspapers. It was also aimed at convincing international observers that there are political prisoners in Costa Rica just as there are in the other nations they make those accusations against.

Weapons

Regarding the weapons, it is believed that they were unloaded in Parismina and Talamanca, close to places where it is believed the communist youths are stationed, or at least where they receive training. One of the places they might be is the Neguev farm, which the Institute of Lands and Colonization turned over to peasants and which is made up of hundreds of hectares of mostly forest.

The land problem would be another of the instruments the communists would use for the benefit of their armed organizations. They would profit from it and use it to attract certain peasants who would want to participate in military adventures.

When government officials learned about all this, orders were given to increase national security measures, and new measures may be adopted in the next few days. One of the first actions taken by the government was to call the National Police reservists to special training. It also reinforced the command of the public forces with people who have military knowledge.

Fidel Castro's regime, accused by all the nations of the area of trying to introduce violence into their territories by arming subversive organizations, is reportedly behind all these destabilization plans, despite the fact that former President Jose Figueres said after a meeting with the Cuban president that Castro is keeping his hands off Costa Rica." [quotation marks as published]

The second link in the international support for these groups reportedly is the Nicaraguan leaders who, according to information learned in San Jose, have organized an office that coordinates subversion programs.

The government may tell other friendly government leaders about this plan in order to increase the defense of the democratic institutions.

COMMUNIST LEADER DENIES MONGE SUBVERSION CHARGES

PA090450 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 3 Aug 82 p 8A

[Text] Manuel Mora Valverde, leader of the Popular Vanguard Party, demanded during a television appearance last night that Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez present proof of the alleged leftist plot to destabilize the government. He made a similar demand regarding the charges made against the three officials of the Nicaraguan Embassy in San Jose who were accused of being involved in the terrorist attack on the offices of Honduran Air Services, Inc. The hierarchy of the Costa Rican communist party appeared on channel 6 to respond to statements Monge Alvarez made on Sunday.

Mora Valverde said: "I want you to know that we are not interested in destabilizing your government, although we differ on ideology and practical policies. We don't want this, because we don't want the people to suffer even more, and we don't want to lose the democratic regime we live in."

Regarding the accusation against the three Nicaraguan diplomats, Mora Valverde said that the only proof the government has come from a "Colombian by the name of Pinzon," who apparently later refused to testify before the court. He added that the Nicaraguan authorities have also requested more accurate proof in case they have to punish their representatives. He said that although he doesn't agree with the Nicaraguan decision to declare our diplomats in Managua "personae non grata," this reaction occurred because they felt offended by the Costa Rican aggression.

Mora Valverde accused Monge Alvarez of participating, jointly with "a certain sector of the Reagan administration" and the Honduran Government, in a plan of aggression against Nicaragua. He also called the president's accusations a maneuver to bring CAS forces controlled by the United States to Costa Rica.

COLUMNIST ON FIGUERES MEETING WITH CASTRO

PA090434 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 3 Aug 82 p 14A

["Good Morning" column by Eduardo Ulibarri: "San Jose-Havana"]

[Text] There are many events that cannot be evaluated immediately. However, if during the present serious international situation we sit and wait for the outcome, we could well end up being victims of those events and situations.

Former President Figueres has made trips to Cuba, against the background of a convulsed Central America, which is being attacked from abroad. The logic of survival indicates that we should evaluate the results of these visits immediately, instead of waiting for a history that perhaps will never be written to reveal to us their hidden meaning.

Judging these visits at present, their result could be scored as nothing for democracy, and at least seven for Castro. The only purpose these visits served publicly was to have the former president act as an echo of Castro's often-repeated positions -- which have been rapidly losing credibility lately.

When repeated by Figueres in his unique style, those made-in-Havana arguments take on new strength. This might lead to the paralyzing of more realistic political plans aimed at facing the Central American crisis.

The famous memorandum of the first meeting with Castro could have been written without even going to Havana -- given the lack of originality of what the Cuban dictator is supposed to have said -- and this is the most concrete result we have from those visits.

Of course, we could justify all this by believing that there were secret agreements, unannounced promises and other fantasies. If this were the case, however, it would have been better to remain silent, and not assume for the time being the function of merely repeating wornout arguments.

POLICE RAID ANTI-SANDINIST GROUP'S OFFICES

PA100223 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] National security police and Immigration Department agents have raided the offices of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, MDN, which is located on the highway to Escazu, where they arrested 12 Nicaraguans. Immigration Department Director (Edmundo Selvin) reported that MDN documents and files were confiscated. According to official sources, special communications equipment and three pistols were also seized.

Among those arrested are: Alvaro Jerez, Cesar Aviles, Sergio Arguello, Walter Balladares Mauricio Mendieta and Eduardo Morales. Another list of persons arrested includes the names of Roger Blandon, Mario Torres, Alvaro Icaza, Jaime Vega and Omar Halum.

Alfonso Robelo, former member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, and other leaders of the MDN, are not in Costa Rica. They are somewhere in South America, where they went last week to participate in several international meetings. Some of the persons arrested have their papers in order, others are fixing their papers and some just don't have any papers.

EL SALVADOR

MAGANA, GARCIA CITE REFUSAL TO TALK WITH REBELS

PA091159 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 3 Aug 82 pp 3, 40

[Text] President Alvaro Magana and Defense Minister Gen Jose Guillermo Garcia have stated that neither the government as such nor the armed forces can enter into negotiations to reach peace, because peace cannot be negotiated; it must be won through legal means. They have repeatedly explained that there can be no dialogue or negotiations with terrorist groups or their representatives, because they are all violating the laws of the republic.

This counters a report disseminated here and abroad that preliminary talks were underway on the creation of a committee that was to include delegates from the government, the church, the Red Cross and similar organizations. Members of the armed forces command have noted that the Salvadoran people held their dialogue on 28 March, when they rejected violence and sought paths of peace through truly democratic means. A dialogue can only be held when the terrorist groups put their weapons down and join our society, government officials have emphasized.

ARMY REGAINS CONTROL OF CIUDAD BARRIOS

PA092124 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1809 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- The Armed Forces Press Committee (COPREFA) today reported that the Salvadoran Army has gained control of the situation in Ciudad Barrios, in the eastern department of San Miguel, after guerrillas occupied the town last weekend. According to official reports, approximately 500 guerrillas occupied the city early Saturday morning; and yesterday, Sunday, it was still in their hands.

COPREFA today said that several clashes between the armed forces and the rebels, who ambushed some military patrols, occurred on the outskirts of Ciudad Barrios. COPREFA added that as of this moment the number of casualties on both sides was not known.

Military spokesmen said that the rebels looted several stores and destroyed government offices in the town. The armed forces are carrying out search operations in Ciudad Barrios and the surrounding area to destroy the last rebel redoubts.

ARMY CONCLUDES OPERATION IN CHALATENANGO

PA100027 San Salvador PROCESO in Spanish 19-25 Jul 82 p 3

[Excerpt] The armed forces have concluded Operation Leon in the northern zone of Zhalatenango. This operation was carried out to regain control of three villages that the FMLN had occupied. An army spokesman described the operation as "partially successful," because the guerrillas withdrew from the villages without putting up any resistance.

SABOTAGE BLACKS OUT SAN VICENTE, LA PAZ REGIONS

PA100033 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1900 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] The Departments of San Vicente and La Paz were without electricity this morning because extremists destroyed several high-voltage towers. The Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL, refused to give any information regarding the situation, in which more than 50 towns in the 2 departments were left without electricity. The CEL public relations and press office announced that nothing will be said until the investigation is completed.

REBELS DERAIL TRAIN IN SAN MARCOS LEMPA

PA100158 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1726 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] A train transporting a shipment of cotton from the eastern zone to the port of Acajutla was derailed yesterday in the area of Caderio Califor, near the Puente de Oro in San Marcos Lempa. Authorities said that the locomotive and six cars containing the cotton shipment suffered serious damage. According to the official reports, the National Guardsmen providing railroad security repelled the attack and suffered no casualties. El Salvador National Railroads stated that the railroad system is facing serious problems, and if the attacks continue this vital transportation service could be paralyzed.

GUATEMALA

RIOS MONTT CALLS FOR UNIQUE FORM OF GOVERNMENT

PA092307 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Last night, in his regular Sunday message, President Efrain Rios Montt said that Guatemala must seek its own form of government, without falling into the extremes of anticapitalist communism or anticommunist capitalism, which some political groups have tried to introduce.

Rios Montt said that the 23 March Movement has a historical significance for Guatemala, as it has made us aware of the necessity of finding the right government system for us, and it has also given us the opportunity to show the world how to live in peace. This movement, he underscored, has been a deterrent against interested groups and other nations in the international community who have tried to destroy us by imposing on us a foreign identity.

Rios Montt noted that Guatemala has its own life, its own philosophical, and moral characteristics, and that none of the current government systems in the world are similar to ours or could be successfully implemented here. He added that underdevelopment is Guatemala's complex reality.

In referring to the changes that have occurred in Guatemala since the present military government took power, Rios Montt said that we are interested in new moral standards, based on a solid family structure. This is the reason for our government philosophy, he stressed. He added that the country's prosperity and development depend on three factors; the Guatemalans' trust in their government, the certainty and awareness that the nation's strength requires the unity of the 7 million Guatemalans, and the knowledge that Guatemala is not made up of the government alone, but of all Guatemalans.

Warns of Coup Plot

PA090426 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 3 Aug 82 pp 31, 33

[Text] In commenting the possibility of a new coup d'etat yesterday, Gen Efrain Rios Montt said that the important thing is to have stability in Guatemala regardless of who occupies the presidency of the republic. He recalled a statement by him during a news conference in which he said that "several capitalists were planning a coup d'etat to overthrow his government." He said that according to reports received from Costa Rica this could occur between 1 and 15 August.

I don't know what happened to those involved in the coup, but it is good to reiterate that I do not have ambitions of remaining in the presidency too long. I don't think a new coup is important, because I feel that the most important thing is to maintain stability in Guatemala. It doesn't matter who reaches power or who becomes president; the important thing is to establish a true nationalism and a desire to serve the fatherland and all Guatemalans.

I am here, but I don't want to be president. I want to be an overseer. It is easy to be on top, because then you say: "Do this or do that." The overseer doesn't act that way; he teaches others to do things.

The State Council

He also commented on the state council, noting that this entity will be made up of representatives from economic, political, cultural and social institutions. He added that the organization and formation of this council will probably begin this month, and that it will start operations in September.

Pacification Within a Short Time

Rios Montt also referred to the state of siege that went into effect on 1 July. He noted that this state of siege is a regulation to guarantee certain operations. He said that the activities carried out by the government in areas of conflict have been positive, but that unfortunately the guerrillas have hurt the economy. He cited as an example the destruction of bridges, which are very important for the development of towns.

I hope, he continued, that within a short time we will have peace in Guatemala, even though it is impossible to eradicate subversion completely, because it is supported from Moscow and it will continue to insist on taking over power. However, as you can see, guerrilla operations have decreased.

Comments on Belize

PA021211 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 3 Aug 82 p 8

[Text] The CACM was designed to satisfy interests that are foreign to those of the peoples of the isthmus, Guatemalan President Gen Efrain Rios Montt said yesterday. Referring to the problems currently being experienced in Central America's trade, which have in fact existed for many years, he said that Guatemala has given more than it should in this regard and that his government has now decided to undertake a reciprocal tariff policy.

As an example he cited the case of Costa Rica, which does not publish announcements when it increases tariffs on Guatemalan products. We are now going to act in a recriprocal manner and will try to plan a "real Central American market." He stressed that the CACM was organized several years ago to serve interests that are foreign to Central America.

The Guatemalan president also reported on the work that is being carried out in rural areas, particularly those considered to be areas of conflict. We have begun, he explained, to build rural roads in Quiche, Huehuetenango and other places where agricultural communities need to be linked with the rest of the country.

Those roads are being built with the least possible machinery, using unemployed peasants. They are paid wages and are assisted with food packages, medical attention, etc.

President Rios Montt noted that other rural sectors projects will also be initiated. He said that the FAO is giving valuable aid to Guatemala in the solution of problems that arise in the areas of conflict.

In another part of his statement, the Guatemalan president stressed that his government plans to consolidate the various groups of Guatemalans with different languages and different customs and cultures.

We are looking for ways to ensure that the Quiches will be proud to be Quiches and that the Ixiles will be proud to be Ixiles, the president added. Yet we must try to consolidate these groups so that we can subsequently achieve a true Guatemalan identity and export that identity abroad.

The president was asked about a recent statement by Belizean Premier George Price's spokesman, who said that "there is no reason why Guatemala should negotiate with Britain when it could talk directly with Belizean Government representatives."

General Rios Montt said that Guatemala remains firm in its decision to negotiate directly with Britain. We will talk with the Belizean Government thereafter, he said. We are friends with Mr Price and we can discuss reciprocal aid after reaching a good understanding with Great Britain, he concluded.

PGT LEADER SAYS REGIME SUPPORTS IMPERIALISM

PA071750 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] (Simon Sanchez), leader of the Guatemalan Labor Party [PGT], has told this station that Guatemala is headquarters and gendarme of U.S. imperialism in Central America. (Sanchez) denounced Washington's efforts to use Guatemala along with Honduras and El Salvador in the regionalization of the Central American conflict and to create a single reactionary front to concentrate mercenary forces in an attack on Nicaragua.

The Guatemalan leader said that this imperialist maneuver cannot be successful because the peoples of those countries will not permit themselves to be pushed to an aggression against their Nicaraguan brothers.

(Simon Sanchez) attached great importance to the process to unite the people. He also stressed the revolutionary movement in Guatemala. That movement is encouraged by the experiences of the revolutions of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada and by the insurgency in El Salvador.

The PGT leader also described Gen Efrain Rios Montt as another imperialist puppet, a fanatic officer, religious individual and well-known anticommunist who has turned over his country's government to the United States. The essential thing, (Simon Sanchez) added, is that Rios Montt has submitted to imperialism's strategic military plan for Central America and continues large-scale massive genocide of the Guatemalan people.

Criticizes Reagan Policies

PA071743 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Aug 82

[Pedro Martinez Pirez interview with (Simon Sanchez), Guatemalan Communist leader; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] It was recently reported in Guatemala that Alvaro Contreras Velez, director of the newspaper PRENSA LIBRE, had been released by the commando group of the Guatemalan Labor Party, PGT, that had held him for months. We have invited Guatemalan Communist leader (Simon Sanchez) to this interview segment today to discuss that action and the prevailing political situation in Guatemala.

[Answer] The electoral process in the country essentially did not permit nor has it ever permitted the participation of opposition forces. This was an electoral event that was not only dominated by the military clique led by the Lucas regime but one in which only the rightwing parties were able to participate. The people asked themselves what option they had. We did not have a large clandestine press so we had no other alternative but to capture that top press executive and in this way to make known the reality of the Guatemalan electoral process. In essence, we think that objective was achieved since we obtained wide coverage in the country as well as in all Central America and even Mexico, Panama and the United States. This was essentially the situation that led to that capture.

In view of the misinterpretation of this capture, we must explain our action. Governments generally describe us as terrorists and kidnappers. We think we must explain that we resort to such action only when we have no other means to publicly express ourselves. However, the release of newsman Contreras Velez shows the ethical conduct of the Guatemalan revolutionary movement. We returned him alive, perhaps with a few more pounds, safe and sound, thus showing that our position is not one of staging captures. We would prefer not to do it but the lack of freedoms forces us to undertake such action.

[Question] The document that the PGT issued on the kidnapping spoke of the imminence of a coup d'etat in Guatemala. As a result, I would like to know your views about the significance of that coup. Why was the coup d'etat staged in Guatemala and what has it represented for your country?

[Answer] Our country had been adopting increasingly more extreme positions in relation to the dominant circles. The military clique, which is the result of the military dictatorship forged by high-ranking military leaders, has fallen into such extremes of reactionary thought that it even opposed Reagan's policy because they deemed it too soft. Fascist officer Lucas Garcia once accused Reagan of being a communist. Therefore, imperialism had no room to maneuver. Imperialism could not use this kind of extreme reactionary government even for its worldwide reactionary policy. The government's isolation in the country was very great. It was practically the third time that this military clique was forced to resort to electoral fraud to maintain its power in view of these circumstances. What maneuvering room does such a government have? That was the reason for the coup d'etat.

The coup d'etat was essentially inspired by imperialism. It is a maneuver to install a duplicate team that will maintain a policy seeking to confuse the outside world. Internally, they have not convinced the people. They wanted to give themselves a different image. That is the reason for the coup d'etat. They have been unable to maintain a policy of cliques which was carried out since 1963. Nineteen years afterwards, that policy was a failure and this is the basic reason for the coup d'etat.

[Question] Regarding the policy of trying to present the Efrain Rios Montt regime as a different government in Guatemala, Guatemala recently became a member of the so-called Central American Democratic Community [CDC]. Do you think that this shows a U.S. plan to try to cover the Guatemalan Government with a mantle that does not befit it?

[Answer] Of course. We think that, above all, the CDC is a plan to finance the regionalization of the conflict. In other words, through it they are seeking other means, which can no longer be those of the Central American Common Market, to finance an aggressive plan. The Reagan government's proposals are ridiculous from the economic viewpoint. To refinance our countries we would really need truly disinterested aid not linked to the current high interest rates. The CDC is in essence an aggressive pact, covered by some millions which do not solve the economic problems. Instead, it is a group of force with some economic pressure and some type of reactivation aid aimed at the siege against Nicaragua. It is in essence a proposal of restricted economic aid that responds to the U.S. Government's fascist policy.

HONDURAS

FOREIGN SECRETARY PAZ BARNICA ON AREA TENSIONS

PA071404 Paris AFP in Spanish 0245 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] Bogota, 6 Aug (AFP) -- Upon arriving here today to attend the inauguration of Colombian President-Elect Belisario Betancur, Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica reiterated that his country has a democratic government born of the will of the people through elections.

Honduras is trying to maintain the best relations with all nations of the world, particularly its neighbors.

Commenting on reports by international news agencies regarding the present situation of Central America, Paz admitted that for the past few weeks the situation with Nicaragua has been tense.

"We could say difficult since the Honduran Government, true to the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other states and observant of a neutral position, has been the subject of a number of attitudes contrary to concord and understanding between nations," he pointed out.

The foreign secretary also recalled that his government has promoted the initiative in favor of Central American peace, which received the support of the international community. He stressed that Nicaragua has refused to accept that initiative which could lead to peaceful coexistence in the area.

He added that, on the contrary, the tension with Nicaragua has triggered territorial and maritime border incidents.

Further on and without discarding the possibility of an armed confrontation with its neighbors, he noted: "I believe that through good faith and sincere dedication to peace there will be no such confrontations, because dialogue and understanding are the proper vehicles for analyzing the problems and for finding the appropriate solution to their differences, within a climate of mutual respect."

The Honduran foreign secretary criticized what he described as Nicaragua's "excessive arms building." He said it is causing great concern in the area.

In that regard he emphasized that the plan for internationalizing peace in Central America advanced by President Suazo Cordova's democratic government calls for a general disarmament.

Finally, Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica said that "the constitutional government of Honduras will never lend its territory for destabilizing actions against governments in the region."

COMMUNIST LEADER ON REGIME'S 'DEMENTED AIMS'

PY061420 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Aug 82

[Statement by Rigoberto Padilla Rush, secretary general of the Communist Party of Honduras; from "somewhere in Central America"; date not given -- recorded]

[Text] I wish to take advantage of the facilities of the dear station Radio Havana to thank all of my country's political and social personalities and popular organizations, not only in Honduras but in Central America and the Caribbean, which one way or the other expressed solidarity to me and my party during the dramatic times when we were the subject of an unwarranted attack and brutal repression at the hands of the Honduran security corps.

I would like to underscore the sacrifice of companeros like (Calixto Garrido Zelaya) who were brutally murdered by the security corps while trying to save my life. (Garrido Zelaya's) example will be recorded by history as an example set by a worthy Honduran and revolutionary who sacrificed his life for the sake of our country's liberation.

Honduras is experiencing terror and an undeclared state of siege. President Suzao Cordova's government, which was elected by the majority of the Honduran people, has not only begun assailing the interests of the very people who elected it but has violated its most sacred promises to them. The attack against the people's organizations and the Communist Party of Honduras [PCH] was unjustified. For many years, our party has supported the theory that relative peace could be maintained in Honduras only through respect for the will of our people's majority and through noninterference in the affairs of neighboring countries.

No one can accuse the PCH of having adopted an attitude of confrontation with the government because, together with the other organizations that composed the patriotic front, it recognized the validity of the results of the election of November 1981. Despite this, the government has launched a campaign of repression against the people. It is the liberal government which has institutionalized repression. It began to oppress our people and to violate its promises to the Honduran electorate the very moment it entered into an alliance with the most intransigent and reactionary sectors of the Honduran Army, which is now headed by Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez.

I would like to make an appeal not only to my country's revolutionary and democratic organizations but to its political parties and personalities who, although not being revolutionary, are deeply concerned over the current developments in Honduras. Proof of this is that well-known editorial writers of the newspaper TIEMPO, intellectuals, and some leaders of the private sector and the Catholic Church have voiced their opposition to the demented policy which is making our country adopt unfriendly and aggressive positions against the Central American people. The only crime of the Central American peoples has been to rise up against imperialist domination and to try to safeguard their sovereignty. A case in point is the threat from Honduras faced by the Nicaraguan people. Proof of this is that the maneuvers which Honduras is jointly holding with North American troops are obviously aimed at testing the preparedness of the Honduran Army and at barefacedly threatening the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua.

The presence of over 4,000 Somozists in 17 camps in an area covering Choluteca, El Paraiso and the Mosquitia region is equally significant. The intervention of the Honduran Army in the Departments of Chalatenango and Morazan, which was denounced by Commander Villalobos of the FMLN of El Salvador, is further evidence of the adventuresome and aggressive policy which the Honduran Government and Armed Forces are implementing in connivance with well-known counterrevolutionaries, for the barefaced purpose of serving as a vehicle for implementation of the U.S. imperialist policies in the area.

In my opinion, the brave editorials written by the director of TIEMPO and the reports by the newsmen of other Honduran daily newspapers prove once more that not everything is lost in our country and that there are moral and democratic forces as well as democratic and patriotic civilian and military personalities who are prepared to keep Honduras from becoming a springboard for the Central American counterrevolution and to prevent Suazo's government from achieving its demented aims.

Followers of the popular liberal alliance and of Liberal leader Modesto Rodas Alvarado are opposed to this policy. Teacher, student, labor and peasant organizations have made concrete statements which show a growing opposition to this policy -- a policy which not only casts doubts on the promises made by Suazo to the Honduran electorate but seriously compromises the security of our country through a military adventure of unforeseeable consequences.

Needless to say, the Communists and the Honduran leftwing revolutionary forces will not sit still in face of this threat to our fatherland's destiny. The unity of the leftist revolutionary forces is more necessary than ever before. The unity of our country's leftist forces with all democratic, nationalist and patriotic sectors is required to confront this threat and the need to give our people a truly democratic option to reach power.

The Honduran democratic and revolutionary forces will not sit still and will take appropriate action if this is required by the present historical times in Central America and in our country.

NICARAGUA

CORDOVA TERMS TALKS WITH GEORGE BUSH 'POSITIVE'

PA091647 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1605 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Managua, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, announced today that "Nicaragua and the United States had very positive high-level contacts on state policy" while in Colombia for new President Belisario Betancur's inauguration.

Cordova Rivas, head of the Nicaraguan delegation that visited Bogota last week, did not disclose details of the talks held with the United States, represented by Vice President George Bush, pending his report to the other junta members.

He indicated that he also held friendly talks with other heads of state who attended the new Colombian president's inauguration. These included Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins, Ecuadorean Presodent Oswaldo Hurtado, Bolivian President Guido Vildoso and Spanish Prime Minister Leopoldo Calvo-Sotelo.

Cordova Rivas emphasized that Nicaragua is intent on securing peace and that it will make every effort to do this and to restore tranquillity, not only in the country but thorughout Central America.

COSTA RICAN, HONDURAN STATEMENTS ON TIAR SCORED

PA052348 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Aug 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] As time passes, it is seen ever more clearly that the diplomatic contacts among the nations of the so-called Central American Democratic Community coincide strictly with the direction chosen by the United States. Naturally, it would be unthinkable for the U.S. Government to speak openly of the need to strengthen the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, especially after Washington betrayed the essential principles of TIAR when it supported England, an extracontinental power, during the recent South Atlantic conflict over the Malvinas.

On the other hand, it is quite understandable that the first people to publicly propose that the TIAR be resurrected are the Costa Rican and Honduran foreign ministers, who lack the scruples possessed by Reagan, who, in turn, is the only one truly interested in this measure, viewing it as a way to reestablish his complete military and political hegemony on the continent.

Although Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio tried yesterday to take his foot out of his mouth, in a vain effort to deny what Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco said about his invocation of the TIAR, the truth is that all of the reactionary U.S. and Central American media, along with those of the most obstinate OAS members, made a very effective resonator for the statements made on Monday by Edgardo Paz Barnica and Fernando Volio on reactivating the TIAR despite the U.S. betrayal in the Malvinas. The same media pointed out that gross and unprecedented verbal attacks on the Sandinist revolution launched by the Costa Rican and Honduran foreign ministers.

Tinoco Reaction

PA050119 Paris AFP in Spanish 2331 GMT 3 Aug 82

[Text] Managua, 3 Aug (AFP) -- Nicaraguan acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco today said that Honduras and Costa Rica must explain their reasons for suggesting the reactivation of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty [TIAR].

Tinoco was talking to newsmen about yesterday's meeting in Tegucigalpa between Honduran Foreign Minister Edgardo Paz Barnica and Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio. During the meeting, the two foreign ministers agreed to promote the reactivation of TIAR.

Tinoco said: "In Honduras' case there is a contradiction. On one hand Honduras speaks of promoting peace in Central America, yet on the other hand it supports the activities ot the counterrevolutionary groups that are attacking Nicaraguan territory while invoking TIAR," Tinoco stated.

Tinoco said the two countries should offer an explanation because "from a certain viewpoint TIAR can be seen as a belligerent organization." He added that this would represent a contradiction in the two countries policies.

The acting foreign minister affirmed that "the United States buried TIAR when it backed Great Britain in its colonialist war against Argentina over the Malvinas Islands."

Tinoco added that the Costa Rican foreign minister is going to visit Managua in mid-August, and that they are going to discuss Volio's talks with Paz Barnica and the border problems between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

PASTORA ADMITS FOLLOWERS NUMBER ONLY 450

PA091506 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Commander Cero has warned that Costa Rica will have to supply the dead in the Nicaraguan war, for the Sandinist commanders have brought Central America into the war.

Commander Eden Pastora, in an interview in Panama, where he is in transit, warned that without a southern front, Costa Rica will have to establish a northern front and then supply the dead, because whether it likes it or not it is involved in Nicaragua's ideological war.

The Marxist-Leninist FSLN commanders are involved in all of the Central American wars and all of the area's nations will have to suffer the consequences, he said.

Eden Pastora declined to comment on the relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

He noted that until international support is received, the Marxist-Leninist of the FSLN cannot be defeated.

When questioned about the number of his true followers, Eden Pastora said that he had only 450, adding that this is because the other democratic forces have been tricked into believing that the nine Sandinist traitors have not yet introduced the Stalinist-kind of Marxism-Leninism.

In affirming that he has no armed followers anywhere, Eden Pastora said that what happened at the border near Los Chiles could have been an FSLN attack intended to justify their attitudes toward the Costa Rican position. He added, however, that it was also possible that some of his followers in the border garrisons rebelled against the communist regime.

Finally, he expressed concern over the fate of 40 of his followers in Costa Rica who have no identification papers.

Abandons Struggle

PA092239 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2209 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] San Jose, 9 Aug (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora, Nicaragua's Commander Cero, today announced that he is abandoning the struggle against the Sandinist regime and will ask the Costa Rican Government for asylum.

"The office of Pastora's friends" called ACAN-EFE today to officially announce that the commander "is abandoning the struggle because of the presence of Somoza's former national guard as a political-military factor in northern Nicaragua."

Pastora, through his office somewhere in San Jose, stated that he doesn't want his name used by the Somozists, who murdered his father many years ago.

U.S.-HONDURAN EXERCISE THREAT TO NICARAGUA

PA100131 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 9 Aug 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpt] The U.S.-Honduran military exercises have been denounced as another U.S. provocation against Nicaragua in its efforts to destabilize the Nicaraguan Government. At the end of the exercises, the State Council in Managua denounced the campaign of destabilization, aggression, sabotage and crime unleashed against Sandino's fatherland. The State Council issued a declaration saying that Nicaragua has been the target in recent months of constant attacks by former Somozist guardsmen who have taken refuge in Honduras. These attacks have left more than 70 dead.

The State Council says this is nothing less than an undeclared war against the Nicaraguan people and is a threat not only to the Sandinist revolution but also to peace and stability in Central America and the Caribbean. The ones promoting and organizing these attacks, the State Council says, are the U.S. authorities; and the ones carrying out the attacks are the soldiers of the puppet Honduran regime and Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries armed and trained by the United States.

The State Council declaration reiterates Nicaragua's willingness to carry out negotiations to solve peacefully its controversy with the United States. However, it adds that it will strongly oppose the extermination plan the U.S. Government is trying to carry out. At the same time, it exhorts the Honduran regime to dismantle the counterrevolutionary camps that have been set up in Honduran territory for the purpose of attacking Nicaragua. The repulsive U.S. plot against the Nicaraguan people is further proof of the U.S. imperialists' contempt for the people of our America. It is part of the unrestrained warmongering policy of President Ronald Reagan, which threatens world peace and the extermination of mankind. All the peoples of the world are opposed to this genocidal policy, as are wise governments that realize that in a nuclear conflict no one would be safe from destruction.

VENEZUELAN GROUP DEMANDS RECAPTURE OF SABOTEURS

PA100344 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The Venezuelan-Cuban Friendship Institute in Caracas has denounced the fact that the authorities at the San Carlos military prison openly helped in the escape of two members of the group involved in the sabotage of a Cuban commercial airliner, a monstrous crime that was perpetrated on 6 October 1976. It demanded immediate punishment for Venezuelan Hernan Ricardo and for Luis Posada Carriles, a counterrevolutionary of Cuban origin. After escaping from the prison, these men sought refuge at the Chilean Embassy in Caracas.

The friendship institute also demanded that those who helped them escape be punished so that Venezuelan justice will not be violated with impunity.

FIDEL CASTRO OPENS CENTRAL-CARIBBEAN GAMES

FL091543 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Excerpts] [Begin Fidel Castro recording] I declare the 24th Central American and Caribbean Games officially open. [march music] [end recording] A great, colorful and emotional spectacle marked the inauguration ceremony of the 24th Central American and Caribbean Games. Pedro Manrero Stadium was at its best to receive the sports leaders, athletes and judges meeting in Cuba to continue the oldest regional games in the world. Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and Army Gen Raul Castro, president and first vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, respectively, were seated in the presidential box for the opening ceremony.

BRAZIL

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO TO SPEAK AT 37TH UNGA

PY100001 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] President Figueiredo has requested congressional approval to leave Brazil next month to attend the 37th UNGA session as the first speaker.

GENERAL WERNER DENIES NUCLEAR BOMB PROJECTS

PY072002 Paris AFP in Spanish 1759 GMT 7 Aug 82

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 7 Aug (APF) -- Gen Alacyr Frederico Werner has asserted, in statements published in this city today, that there is no government-level project to use nuclear energy for warlike pruposes. The general, who is chief of staff of the armed forces, accepted the use of nuclear energy for the propulsion of ships and submarines, but he ruled out any possibility that the country would develop or manufacture nuclear devices.

Werner stressed that Brazil has chosen, in accordance with its peaceful policy, to apply nuclear energy for peaceful purposes for the benefit of the people and the development of the country.

Werner said in conclusion that the armed forces would consider the hypotheses of possessing a nuclear bomb only in case a probable enemy had one, but there is no such enemy.

CONCERN OVER MILITARY USES OF OUTER SPACE

PY100334 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0230 GMT 10 Aug 82

[Text] President Joao Figueiredo has expressed the Brazilian Government's concern over the increasing possibility that outer space will be used for military purposes. He contended that at present all tests of weapons are being carried out in the lower limits of outer space. According to the president, this amounts to a terrible threat for mankind.

CHILE

OFFICIAL ON STATUS OF SABOTEURS AT EMBASSY

PY091853 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] The two anti-Castro activists that sought asylum at the Chilean Embassy in Caracas are mere guests, according to Fernando Zegers, director general for foreign policy of the Chilean Foreign Ministry.

Zegers added that the situation of Luis Posadas Carriles and Hernan Ricardo, who yesterday escaped from San Carlos military prison in Caracas, is being studied.

He indicated that between Venezuela and Chile there is an agreement on asylum which makes it difficult for the people in question to meet the requirements for being granted asylum. Zegers stated that permanent contact is maintained with Ambassador Carlos Costa-Nora with regard to this affair.

As we have reported before Posada Carriles and Ricardo were serving a prison term for having exploded a bomb in a Cubans airliner 6 years ago.

COLOMBIA

DEFENSE MINISTER ON PEACE, CIVIC ACTIONS

PA091942 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Aug 82

[Text] Defense Minister Gen Fernando Landazabal said today that civic and military projects will soon be carried out in the country's poorest sections, noting that commands will be established for central Magdalena, Caqueta, Putumayo, Choco and the Pacific. He added: We are going to join with the government and the country, whereby the armed forces will use some of their personnel and equipment to benefit currently unprotected places.

As for the president's statement about offering a white flag to the groups that are up in arms, the defense minister said that the exact meaning of the president's words must be understood, which is that the government wishes to bring peace to the country. He added that the armed forces will support this noble presidential attitude. Finally, General Landazabal said that they will do everything possible to see that Colombia enjoys the necessary conditions to continue its progress and to remain a free and sovereign country.

PANAMA

OFFICERS REPORTEDLY SPLIT OVER NEWSPAPER CASE

PA091440 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 9 Aug 82 p 1A

[By Luis Estribi]

[Text] A source who asked not to be identified has told this newspaper that there is disagreement within the National Guard General Staff as to who ordered the destruction of LA PRENSA's electronic equipment and rotary printing press, and as to why. Apparently the National Guard officers have been discussing the abuses committed against this newspaper's employees, the spectacular display of force against it during its closure and the vandalistic destruction of its equipment by individuals "presumably dressed in civilian clothes" who crossed the police barrier, or were allowed to enter our premises by the police, to spill acid on the most sensitive parts of the computer and on the rotary press.

As the public knows, General Paredes ordered all newspapers closed. He then told the Supreme Court, in response to a writ, that he had "only made a recommendation." Later, when the return of the newspaper to its owners was ordered, Paredes offered to pay for the damages -- estimating them "roughly" at 100,000 balboas -- and hinting that he suspected this might be a case of "self-inflicted sabotage."

Meanwhile, while traveling as the head of an official delegation, Mrs Bertha Torrijos de Arosemena has explained to several Latin American governments that the closure was intended to keep the newspapers from misrepresenting "President Royo's resignation."

In view of the high political cost that the regime must now pay for its arbitrary actions, the General Staff is trying to determine who is actually responsible for giving the "preposterous order," the source said.